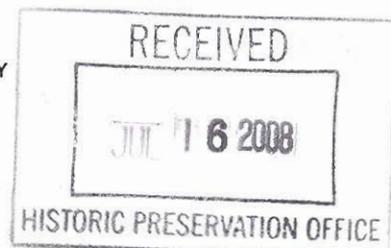




DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT AGENCY
NORTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE GARRISON
PICATINNY ARSENAL, NEW JERSEY 07806-5000



July 14, 2008

Environmental Affairs Division

Mr. Terry Karschner
Acting Administrator
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State of New Jersey Historic Preservation Office
Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Parks and Forestry
501 East State Street CN 404
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0404

POC: Jason Huggan
Cultural Resource Manager
Chugach Industries, Inc.
Environmental Affairs Office
Bldg. 319
Picatinny Arsenal, NJ 07806

08-1810-1125
HPO-H2008-149

SUBJECT: Proposed Construction for Armament Technology Facility and Armament Integration Facility

Dear Mr. Karschner,

Picatinny Arsenal has planned construction of a new Armament Integration Facility (AIF), Armament Integration Laboratory Building, and a 6,250 square foot 100-meter range to be attached to the existing Armament Technology Facility (ATF) at Building 7.

The existing ATF at Building 7 is located on First Street between First Avenue and Second Avenue. The southern portion of the proposed 100-meter range will be attached to the ATF and will be oriented parallel to, and 10 feet to the east of the existing 100-meter range. The new AIF Laboratory Building will be a separate facility located adjacent to the ATF, between First Avenue and Phipps Road (approximately 75 feet from the existing ATF; Figures 1 and 2). No existing buildings are proposed for demolition for this project.

The ATF was constructed in 1995 and has no historic significance. Historically, this area was known as the Lower Storage Area and contained various hollow tile storehouses. All surrounding buildings have been previously evaluated for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and determined not eligible (HPO-G99-010, enclosed for further reference). The nearest historic districts and architectural features are the Administrative and Research Historic District, and the Arsenal Cannon Gates. The viewsheds of these eligible historic resources will not be affected by this proposed construction. Therefore, no effects are anticipated to nearby architectural resources and/or historic districts.

Additionally, Phase I cultural resource surveys have been conducted for roughly 630 acres at Picatinny. From these surveys, the actual recorded inventory of archaeological sites across the Arsenal consists of 12 prehistoric and 11 historic period sites. Historic map research and archaeological sensitivity models performed for Picatinny's Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP, 2003) have assessed that over 100+ potential historic archaeological sites have been recorded, and/or noted across the Arsenal (HPO-G2000-151, enclosed for further reference). According to the Picatinny Cultural Resource Manager (CRM), Mr. Jason Huggan, Registered Professional Archaeologist with Chugach Industries, Inc., the sensitivity model in the ICRMP indicates that the area around Building 7 is disturbed and therefore unlikely to contain significant archeological resources (Figure 1). Two (2) previously mapped historic sites for the pre-1887 Albert Davidson residence have been mapped nearby the proposed

construction. However, due to prior ground disturbance from Arsenal development in the vicinity of the Area of Potential Effects (APE), no cultural resources and/or buried remains are expected to be impacted. Furthermore, no archaeological sites have been identified in the vicinity of the APE that are eligible for the NRHP. Therefore no effects are anticipated to cultural resources. Regardless of this determination, the installation will implement Standard Operating Procedures that if any archaeological/cultural resources are discovered during construction development, the CRM is notified for further investigation.

An Environmental Assessment is currently in production for Final review and public comment for this proposed project. We request that your office provide a review and concurrence of these determinations. If you require further information, please feel free to contact Mr. Jason Huggan at (973) 724-3664, jason.j.huggan@pica.army.mil.

Sincerely,



Thomas Solecki
Chief, Environmental Affairs Division

Enclosures

08-1810-1 HPO H2008-149

I concur with your finding that there are no historic properties affected within the project's area of potential effects. Consequently, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), no further Section 106 consultation is required unless additional resources are discovered during project implementation pursuant to 36 CFR 800.13.


DANIEL D. SAUNDERS

8/20/08

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

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